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Chief Executive Officer

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February 2, 2016

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To: Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Chair
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From: Sachi A. Hamai
Chief Executive Officer

FOREIGN CONSULATE IDENTIFICATION CARD PROGRAM – ANNUAL REVIEW

Pursuant to Board Policy No. 3.050, this is to provide the Board with an annual review of the Foreign Consulate Identification Card Program.

BACKGROUND

The Program was established to allow County departments to accept a foreign consulate identification card (FCIC) as a form of valid identification. An FCIC is used only for identification purposes. It is not considered proof of legal residence nor does it extend any benefits to the holder which would require legal residency.

On June 11, 2002, the Board authorized the County of Los Angeles to accept the Matricula Consular, an FCIC issued by the Consulate of Mexico, as a form of identification. The FCIC for the Consulate of Argentina was accepted into the Program on August 1, 2003, the FCIC for the Consulate of Korea was accepted on May 19, 2006, and the FCIC for the Consulate of Peru was accepted on July 16, 2015. The Chief Executive Office was delegated authority to approve acceptance of a consulate's FCIC, upon notification to the Board, if the FCIC meets the criteria as set forth in the Policy.

ANNUAL REVIEW

All County departments were surveyed to determine which departments were presented with FCICs in the course of their operations. Of 32 departments and agencies included in this report, 18 indicated they were presented with FCICs in 2015.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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The attachment provides information on the services obtained by FCIC holders, the frequency with which FCICs were presented, and any operational issues reported by the departments presented with one or more of the eligible FCICs.

It should be noted that on January 1, 2013, existing law was changed to require that in certain child custody cases the Department of Children and Family Services must accept valid FCICs from all consulates.

The following are highlights from the departments' responses:

- **Animal Care and Control** – FCICs were presented for animal adoptions, impounds, redemptions, license sales and renewals, proof of animal ownership, and writing checks.
- **Assessor** – FCICs were presented for requests of copies of building records.
- **Beaches and Harbors** – FCICs were presented as ID when people showed up for work in lieu of incarceration, or for mandated public services.
- **Child Support Services** – FCICs were presented for ID in requests for case-specific information, interviews, and making payments, as well as verification of mistaken identity claims.
- **Children and Family Services** – FCICs were used primarily for Live Scans in adoptions and Adoption and Safe Families Act programs.
- **Community and Senior Services** – FCICs from Mexico were presented, mostly for food pantry pick-ups, taxi vouchers, and holiday giveaways.
- **Community Development Commission/Housing Authority** – FCICs from Mexico were presented for Community Housing Development Organization re-certification.
- **Coroner/Medical Examiner** – FCICs were presented to establish identification of decedents and to identify legal next of kin of decedents and to claim personal properties of decedents.
- **Health Services** – FCICs were presented by patients seeking inpatient and outpatient health care services.
- **Mental Health** – FCICs were presented as a form of identification for financial screenings and mental health services.

- **Parks and Recreation** – FCICs were presented by community service volunteers and for youth sports enrollment.
- **Probation** – FCICs were presented during visits and for family therapy sessions of detained minors.
- **Public Health** – Photo ID is not required to access services, but IDs are recommended for clients presenting at Community Health Services centers for clinical services. Five out of 14 centers reported FCIC usage.
- **Public Library** – FCICs were presented to obtain library cards, with 1,021 cards issued to Mexican FCIC users, and two to Korean FCIC users.
- **Public Social Services** – Approximately 114,394 FCICs were presented when applying for CalWORKS/Refugee, General Relief, CalFresh and Medi-Cal benefits.
- **Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk** – FCICs were presented for issuance of birth certificates, marriage licenses, check acceptance, and Fictitious Business Statements.
- **Sheriff** – Numerous FCICs were presented as proof of identity for service calls; traffic and pedestrian stops; visiting inmates; and general public contact. There are continuing problems with determining FCIC authenticity. The department has distributed a newsletter describing the FCICs to assist personnel with recognizing Mexican and Argentine FCIC and is looking into updating the newsletter with input from the Korean and Peruvian consulates.
- **Treasurer-Tax Collector** – FCICs were presented to process business license applications and for processing payments for property taxes with debit/credit cards.

The following departments reported they were not presented with any of the eligible FCICs in 2015: Alternate Public Defender, Auditor-Controller, Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors, Chief Executive Office, Chief Information Office, Consumer and Business Affairs, District Attorney, Fire, Human Resources, Internal Services, Museum of Art, Museum of Natural History, Public Works, and Regional Planning.

Given the number of departments that have indicated an interest in having an opportunity for refresher training, this office will work with the consulates in 2016 to coordinate a training session, including a webinar and to strengthen the FCIC Program.

Each Supervisor
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If you have any questions or require additional information, your staff may contact Lourdes Saab at 213-974-1307 (lsaab@ceo.lacounty.gov) or Glenda Wina at 213-974-1307 (gwina@ceo.lacounty.gov).

SAH:JJ:MR
LS:GW:ed

Attachment

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
All Department Heads

FOREIGN CONSULATE IDENTIFICATION CARD – ANNUAL SURVEY RESULTS 2014-2015

02/06/2015 (Final)

| DEPARTMENT | PRESENTED FCICS AS A FORM OF PHOTO ID? | | | IF SO, IN CONJUNCTION WITH WHAT SERVICES OR ACTIVITIES WERE FCICS PRESENTED? | IF YOUR DEPT HAS BEEN PRESENTED WITH FCICS, DOES YOUR DEPT. HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON THE AMOUNT OF USE? | PROBLEMS WITH ACCEPTING FCICS AS VALID PHOTO ID? | | | | ANY SUGGESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR CONCERNS REGARDING THE POLICY? | DOES YOUR DEPT. WANT TRAINING? | |
|---------------------------------------|--|-----------|----------|--|--|--|-----------|----------|------|---|--------------------------------|----|
| | MEXICO | ARGENTINA | S. KOREA | | | MEXICO | ARGENTINA | S. KOREA | NONE | | YES | NO |
| Alternate Defender | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | N/A | | X |
| Animal Care & Control | X | | X | Animal Adoptions, impounds, redemptions, license sales and renewals. Also, to write checks or show proof of animal ownership. | Mexican IDs approximately 20% of total transactions at Baldwin Park and Downey Shelters, and approximately 60 transactions per year at the Carson Shelter. Korean IDs less than 10 transactions per year for all shelters. None presented in 2014. | | | | X | A poster or flyer with all the acceptable legal forms and types of foreign identifications would be very helpful. | X | |
| Assessor | | | | | | | | | X | Not at this time. | X | |
| Auditor-Controller | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | N/A | | X |
| Beaches and Harbors | X | | | Court referrals presented as ID when showing up for work in lieu of incarceration or for mandated public service. | No, but usage is not very frequent. | | | | X | Not at this time. | | X |
| Board of Supervisors Executive Office | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | No | X | |
| Chief Executive Office | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | No | | X |
| Chief Information Office | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | N/A | X | |
| Child Support Services | X | X | X | FCICs were presented for ID purposes in request for case specific info, interviews, requesting documentation and making payments. In addition, FCICs are presented in conjunction with establishing cases, obtaining orders, or enforcing orders. (For more details see survey form) | The total number varies for each of the 8 departmental divisions, but it is estimated that around 2,000 FCICs were presented. | | | | X | Training to identify counterfeit FCICs would be helpful. | X | |

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|---|--|-----------|----------|---|--|--|-----|----|---|---|--------------------------------|---|
| | MEXICO | ARGENTINA | S. KOREA | | | NONE | YES | NO | | | | |
| Internal Services from 2013 Survey) | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | | X | |
| Mental Health | X | | | FCICs were presented as a form of identification for financial screenings, mental health services and assessments, and identification purposes. | No. | | | X | | No. | X | |
| Military and Veterans Affairs | | | | N/A | N/A | | | X | | No. | | X |
| Natural History Museum | | | | N/A | N/A | | | X | | No suggestions at this time. | | X |
| Parks and Recreation | X | | | Community service volunteers; youth sports program enrollment (from 2013 Survey). | Approximately 40% of community services workers present the FCIC, according to field staff. Once or twice for other programming. (from 2013 Survey). | | | X | | No | X | |
| Probation | X | | X | FCICs are presented during visits and family therapy sessions of detained minors. | FCICs are presented infrequently. | | | X | | As a result of recent changes to California law illegal status individuals may apply for a driver's license. When individuals with FCICs are issued DMV licenses, an interface with DMV would be beneficial to departments. | X | |
| Public Health - Community Health Services | X | | | Only one health center out of 14 surveyed reported receiving FCICs as a form of photo I.D. when attending for clinical services. | Usage is not tracked but FCICs received are minimal. | | | X | | Not at this time. | | X |

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|-------------------------|--|-----------|----------|---|---|--|-----------|----------|------|--|--------------------------------|----|
| | MEXICO | ARGENTINA | S. KOREA | | | MEXICO | ARGENTINA | S. KOREA | NONE | | YES | NO |
| Sheriff | X | X | X | FCiCs have been presented during incidents where a call for service was requested and/or required, traffic stops, pedestrian stops, visiting of inmates and general public contact. | The department has been presented with a substantial number of FCiCs, but the exact number is impossible to calculate as not all contacts contain what type of identification was presented. FCiCs from all 3 countries have been presented in unknown numbers. | X | X | X | | As with most forms of ID other than CA ID cards and drivers' licenses, it is difficult to determine the validity and authenticity. The department has distributed a department newsletter that describes the FCiCs to assist personnel with recognizing authentic FCiCs. Even so, recognition of an authentic FCiC can be difficult for law enforcement officers due to infrequent encounters with the cards. The use of a special device to detect the hidden security features makes it harder to authenticate the cards, as the device is not always available when needed. Additionally, any changes to these cards need to be brought to the Department's attention immediately so that this information may be disseminated to relevant personnel. Providing access to a consulate's database ID system would give deputy personnel the ability to verify FCiCs in the same manner as California IDs and drivers' licenses are validated. (Note: this may not be possible because of other countries' privacy laws.) | X | No |
| Treasurer-Tax Collector | X | | | To process immigration clearance letters. | No | | | X | | No. | X | |